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FILED/ACCEPTED

WAIVER – EXPEDITED ACTION REQUESTED

JUN 13 2012

REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF NARROWBANDING DEADLINE

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Pursuant to Section 1.925 of the Federal Communications Commission's (the "Commission") rules and the July 13, 2011 Public Notice providing guidance for submitting requests for waivers of the narrowbanding deadline (i.e., "Time Extension"), Arizona Water Company ("the Company") respectfully requests a waiver of Section 90.209 and twelve-month extension of the January 1, 2013 deadline (the "Deadline") to migrate to narrowband technology in the 150-174 MHz and 421-512 MHz UHF/VHF frequency bands

The Company is currently working to complete the narrowbanding of its telecommunications equipment, which will require reprogramming or replacement of voice and telemetry radio units, and which will also require the replacement of entire control system installations at a number of telemetry radio sites. The telemetry radio and control system currently used by the Company to control its water production, water storage, water treatment and booster pump facilities uses proprietary control equipment paired with integral radios. Use of this proprietary-type equipment severely limits the number of qualified telecommunications contractors licensed to sell, install and make modifications to such equipment. As such, these contractors will not be able to complete all of the work needed to transition to narrowbanding by January 1, 2013.

I. Background

The Company is a public service corporation providing public utility water service to over 84,000 customers in 22 water systems in 8 counties throughout the state of Arizona, representing a total population of approximately 240,000. The Company's existing telemetry radio systems provide automated control and alarm service for over 200 water production, water storage, water treatment and booster pump facilities necessary to provide public utility water service, including water for fire protection. Maintaining uninterrupted water service is critical to the health and safety of the public served by the Company in over twenty communities.

The Company also relies heavily upon the use of voice radio systems, which are critical for many rural areas due to cell phone coverage that is inadequate or unavailable. Beyond the day-to-day use of voice radio equipment necessary for operation of the public water utility, voice radio equipment is more reliable than cell phone service and may be the only form of voice communication that continues to operate during severe storms, fires and natural disasters. The state of Arizona has experienced significant wide-scale forest fires over the past ten years, some of which directly impacted communities served by the Company. The Company's voice radio equipment served as the only form of communications during these emergencies.

The Company's water systems are located in mostly rural areas with diverse geographic and topographic settings. Wireless telecommunications are the only reasonably available means to provide automated controls and alarms that supply water service to these many areas and no alternative has been identified that could be expected to replace wireless telecommunications equipment.

II. Request for Waiver (i.e., "Time Extension")

The Commission's Public Notice dated July 13, 2011 titled in part "Guidance for submission of Request for Waivers and Other Matters" listed several factors that the Commission will evaluate in considering a request to extend the narrow-band deadline and each of those factors is addressed below:

1. *Steps already taken to plan for and implement the transition to narrow-band operations*

The Company has inspected each piece of voice and telemetry radio equipment to establish the scope of work needed to ensure compliance with narrowbanding regulations. Subsequently, the Company requested proposals and contracts to complete such work. A schedule for the transition to narrowband operations is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

2. *System size and complexity*

The Company's voice and telemetry radio systems consist of approximately 148 mobile voice radios, 13 voice radio base stations and 70 telemetry radios. These voice and telemetry radios are installed in 22 separate water systems across the state of Arizona. Most of the telemetry radios and voice base stations are located in rural or remote areas increasing the time necessary to implement the transition to narrowband operations and adding to the complexity and difficulty of supporting the wholesale change to narrowband technology on a statewide basis.

3. *System equipment and whether it is narrow-band-capable or must be replaced or upgraded*

The majority of the Company's voice and telemetry radios are not narrowband capable which will require reprogramming or replacement of the radios, and will also require the replacement of entire control system installations at a number of telemetry radio sites. The telemetry radio and control system currently used by the Company to control its water production, water storage, water treatment and booster pump facilities uses proprietary control equipment paired with integral radios making it necessary to also replace the control equipment when replacing the radio.

4. *Funding sources*

All of the Company's improvements required for compliance with the Commission's narrowband mandate are self-funded. Although slightly over half of the funds required for transition to narrowband operation have been approved by the Company's Board of Directors as part of the Company's 2012 calendar year budget, the remaining funds necessary to complete the transition will be allocated in the Company's 2013 calendar year budget.

5. *Whether the licensee's narrow-banding schedule is affected by neighboring systems due to interoperability relationships or other interdependencies*

The Company's schedule is primarily driven by system control and alarm interdependencies between plant sites necessary for automatic control of the Company's water storage and pumping systems. These interdependencies combined with the limited telecommunications contractor staff resources available to the Company impact and shape the schedule needed to complete the transition to narrowband which is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

The Company intends to transition to narrowband technology as soon as possible and it will notify the Commission if it is able to complete the transition prior to January 1, 2014.

6 *Plans to minimize the negative impact of extended wideband operations on co-channel and adjacent channel operations*

The Company acknowledges that maintaining wideband operations after January 1, 2013 will occupy spectrum that may otherwise be available for adjacent channel VHF operations. However, the Company believes that this is far outweighed by the need to maintain the public health and safety of public utility water service while making an orderly and coordinated transition to narrowband technology.

7. *If the licensee plans to migrate to a non-VHF/UHF band, whether it will relinquish the VHF/UHF spectrum once it has migrated and the amount of spectrum to be relinquished.*

At this time, the Company does not plan to relinquish any VHF/UHF spectrum once it has migrated to narrowband technology, although it does already use license free spread spectrum radios in several of the communities where it provides public utility water service.

Extension of the Deadline is warranted because strict application would be inequitable, unduly burdensome and contrary to the public interest in view of the unique factual circumstances presented here. Public utility water service is an essential commodity and the public health and safety could be placed at risk if wireless telecommunications are interrupted unnecessarily. Therefore, the Commission's approval of the Company's requested 12-month extension of the Deadline is in the public interest.

There are not enough qualified licensed contractors available locally to complete the programming, removal of non-compliant wireless equipment, replacement with new compliant wireless equipment and replacement of ancillary control system hardware by the Deadline. Because much of the wireless telecommunications and related hardware control systems equipment is no longer supported by the manufacturer, most of the existing equipment must be replaced in order to comply with the narrowbanding regulation. The only factory authorized programming and support facility for this equipment has a limited staff available to install, program and commission the new narrowband compliant equipment. Orderly reprogramming of compliant wireless equipment and programming and replacement of non-compliant wireless equipment are necessary to maintain public utility water service to dozens of primarily rural communities.

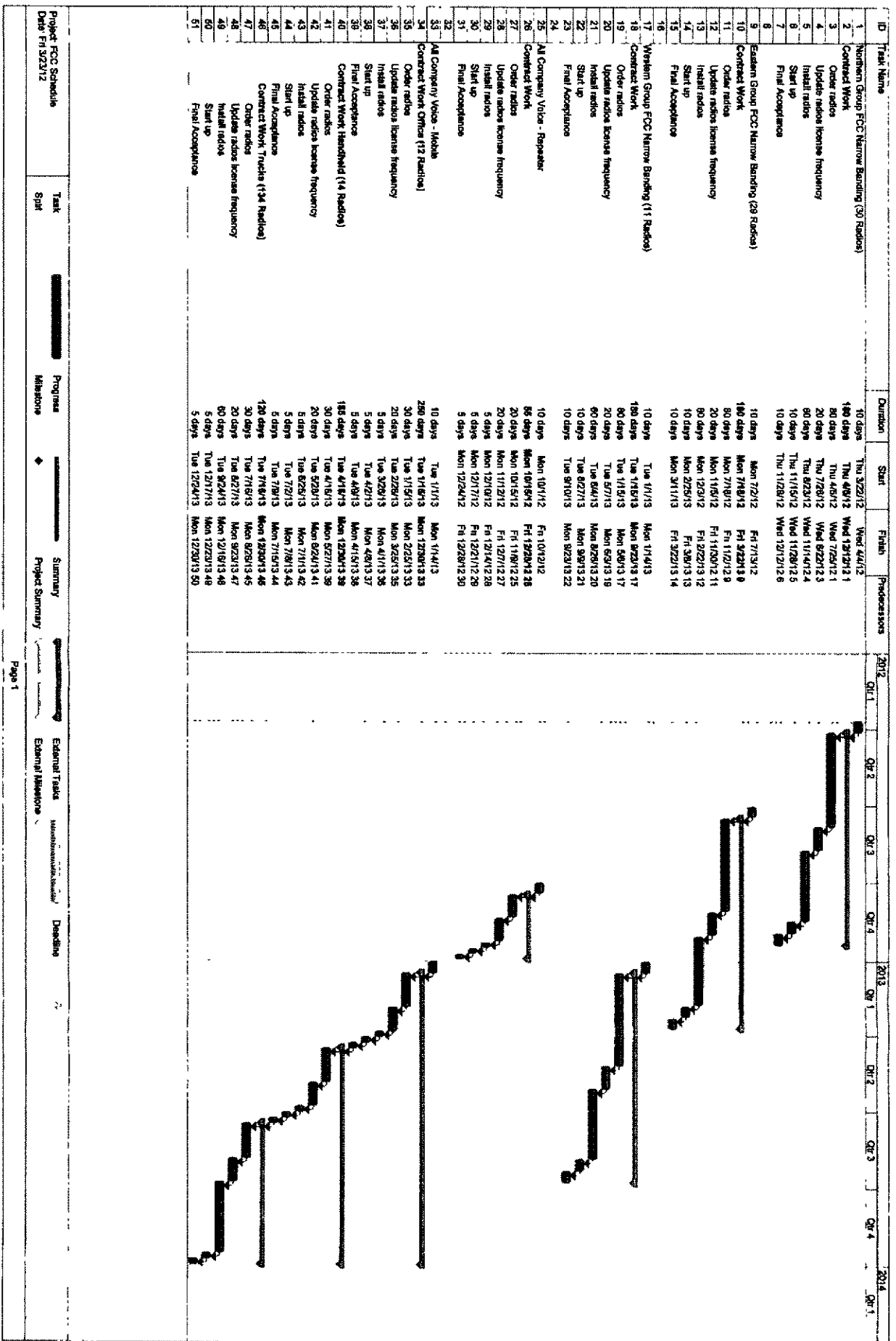
Based on the forgoing, and in summary, the Company is requesting a 12-month extension of the narrowbanding deadline (*i.e.*, until January 1, 2014) to ensure that the Company has time to comply with the Commission's narrowbanding requirement on a deferred basis. A complete list of the call signs for which the time extension is being requested for is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

Should the Commission require additional information, it is asked to contact the Company's Vice President - Operations: James T. Wilson, PO Box 29006, Phoenix, AZ 85039; 602-240-6860; e-mail: jwilson@azwater.com.

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ATTACHMENT A

Project Schedule



ATTACHMENT B

Affected Radio Licenses

Arizona Water Company
Request for Extension of Narrow Banding Deadline
Applicable Licenses+

KD6286	KDJ835	KDJ837	KMG566	KNDE487	KNDE488
KOK861	KOK863	KOK864	KOK865	KOK868	KOK869
KRW595	WNMA388	WNMA390	WNNN622	WNNN623	WNNN624
WNNN625	WNNQ257	WNNQ258	WNNQ259	WNUP702	WNUP703
WNVF591	WNVF800	WNVF801	WNYZ296	WNYZ297	WNZC481
WPPU979	WPXD917	WPXE223	WQKL785	WQKN639	WQNH231
WQNJ291	WQNJ292	WPTJ527	WNWL749	KOK867	